

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. *(Currently amended)* A trench wall cutter ~~for cutting trenches of rectangular cross-section in the ground in order to carry out underground construction work, the trench wall cutter having a cutting device comprising:~~

trench cutting means for cutting trenches of rectangular cross-section in the ground in order to carry out underground construction work, the trench cutting means including:

[[-]] first, second, third, and fourth cutting wheels drivable in rotary manner in first and second oppositely directed rotation directions, wherein the first and second cutting wheels are arranged in a first pair in rotary manner about a first common rotation axis, the third and fourth cutting wheels are arranged in a second pair in rotary manner about a second common rotation axis, and the first and second common rotation axes are parallel to each other, ~~and~~

[[-]] at least one first cutting ~~element~~ means, located on each cutting wheel, for removing soil material during a rotation of the cutting wheel in a first rotation direction, ~~wherein~~ [[-]]

~~on each cutting wheel is provided~~ and at least one second cutting ~~element~~ means, located on each cutting wheel, for removing soil material during rotation of the cutting wheel in an oppositely directed, second rotation direction, [[-]] at least one of the cutting ~~elements~~ means on each cutting wheel is being displaceably mounted between a first position for removing soil material and a retracted, second position and

[[-]] a control ~~device~~ is provided means for the ~~displacement of~~ displacing the cutting ~~elements~~ means between the first position and the second position.

2. (*Currently amended*) The trench wall cutter according to claim 1, wherein the first cutting ~~element~~ means and the second cutting ~~element~~ means are displaceable.

3. (*Currently amended*) The trench wall cutter according to claim 2, wherein the second cutting ~~element~~ means can be displaced into the other position by the control ~~device~~ means during the displacement of the first cutting ~~element~~ means.

4. (*Canceled*)

5. (*Currently amended*) The trench wall cutter according to claim 1, wherein the control ~~device~~ means is operable by a force exerted by the outcropping ground during rotary operation.

6. (*Currently amended*) The trench wall cutter according to claim 1, wherein the control ~~device~~ means has at least one pivoted lever positioned on a circumferential surface of the cutting wheel.

7. *(Previously presented)* The trench wall cutter according to claim 6, wherein the pivoted lever has a pivot axis provided parallel to a rotation axis of the cutting wheel.

8. *(Previously presented)* The trench wall cutter according to claim 6, wherein the pivoted lever is constructed symmetrically to the pivot axis.

9. *(Currently amended)* The trench wall cutter according to claim 6, wherein the first and second cutting ~~elements~~ means are arranged pairwise on the pivoted lever.

10. *(Previously presented)* The trench wall cutter according to claim 6, wherein the pivoted lever has at least one stop which engages on a circumferential surface of the cutting wheel for limiting a control path of the pivoted lever.

11. *(Currently amended)* The trench wall cutter according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the cutting ~~elements~~ means is a cutting tooth with a unilaterally formed cutting edge.

12-13. *(Canceled)*

14. *(Previously presented)* The trench wall cutter according to claim 1, further comprising a frame and bearing plates, wherein the cutting wheels are fixed in rotary manner to the frame by respective bearing plates.

15. *(Previously presented)* The trench wall cutter according to claim 14, wherein the frame is constructed as a support plate.

16. *(Previously presented)* The trench wall cutter according to claim 14, wherein the cutting wheels include laterally pivotable hinged teeth arranged circumferentially thereon for stripping the soil below the bearing plates.

17. *(Currently amended)* A trench wall cutter ~~for cutting trenches of rectangular cross-section in the ground in order to carry out underground construction work, the trench wall cutter having a cutting device comprising:~~

trench cutting means for cutting trenches of rectangular cross-section in the ground in order to carry out underground construction work, the trench cutting means including:

[[]] first, second, third, and fourth cutting wheels drivable in rotary manner in first and second oppositely directed rotation directions, wherein the first and second cutting wheels are arranged in a first pair in rotary manner about a first common rotation axis, the third and fourth cutting wheels are arranged in a second pair in rotary manner about a second common rotation axis, and the first and second common rotation axes are parallel to each other, ~~and~~

[[-]] at least one first cutting ~~element~~ means, located on each cutting wheel, for removing soil material during a rotation of the cutting wheel in a first rotation direction, ~~wherein [[-]]~~ ~~on each cutting wheel is provided~~ and at least one second cutting ~~element~~ means, located on each cutting wheel, for removing soil material during rotation of the cutting wheel in an

oppositely directed, second rotation direction, at least one of the cutting ~~elements~~ means on each cutting wheel is being displaceably mounted between a first position for removing soil material and a retracted, second position and

[[-]] a control ~~device is provided~~ means for the ~~displacement of~~ displacing the cutting ~~elements~~ means between the first position and the second position.